

DODGE COUNTY
JUDICIAL AND PUBLIC PROTECTION COMMITTEE MEETING
October 2, 2020

Call to order: Meeting was called to order by Chair Thomas Nickel at 8:00 a.m.; a quorum was established with the following members present:

Thomas Nickel, Larry Schraufnagel (*appeared by phone*), Del Yaroach, and Ed Benter.
(*David Guckenberger was excused*)

Also Present: James Mielke-County Administrator; Brian Pfitzinger-Circuit Court Judge; Kristine Snow-Circuit Court Judge; Lynn Hron-Clerk of Courts; Kurt Klomberg-District Attorney; Bob Barrington-District Attorney Managing Attorney; Terra Mattheis-Director of Child Support Agency; Dale Schmidt-Dodge County Sheriff; Scott Mittelstadt-Patrick Schoebel-Medical Examiner; Gina Steinke-Br. 2 Judicial Assistant.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Del Yaroach to approve Minutes of August 7, 2020 meeting; second by Ed Benter. Motion carried.

Chairman's report: Tom Nickel reminded everyone that if anything needs addressed to please have it added to the Agenda.

Department Reports:

District Attorney: Kurt Klomberg stated ADA Jim Sempf's last day was Friday, September 25. He took a position in Walworth County DA Office. Attorney Sempf's position has been filled and her name is Jin Ho Pack and she will begin working on October 26th. She was currently a Judge in Colorado. They had 3 very qualified applicants for the position. They are still working on filling the paralegal position. One employee is currently home on quarantine.

Courts: Brian Pfitzinger reports the Court have been open completely for 4 months and going well. One employee from Court security was under quarantine. Just had the third Jury Trial this week (since re-opening the Courts on June 1) and Judge Pfitzinger polled the jurors after the trial and received no negative comments at all.

Re: Parental Education program, in the last several months due to Covid-19, participants have been allowed to utilize an online program based out of Texas. The program is ok but not specific to Wisconsin so discussions began re: the possibility of creating our own online program and the cost is estimated to be about \$1,188. The hope is that once the program is up and running it can be marketed to other counties. Question by Larry Schraufnagel – we'd be writing our own program? Brian responded that the content would be ours, IT Dept is helping and they would take our content and create an online program. Question by Jim Mielke – re: the Courts opening, is there potential of a new State order to close? Brian responded that we had to have our re-opening plan approved by the State Courts and ours actually went to the Supreme Court also. In answer to Jim Mielke's question, yes, it could happen. Kristine Snow commented that the Supreme Court came out with a new Order yesterday late saying they will leave it up to each county. Comment by Jim Mielke – credit to the Dodge County Courts and our plan that has gone so smoothly.

Sheriff's Office: Dale Schmidt stated he believes there is a misconception about the service vehicles used by the administrative staff. Dale states he alone averages about 200 calls for service each year. These vehicles are not just taxis to get administrative staff home. They really need 10 new squad cars next year, they are a priority and that is why other job positions will remain unfilled. Question by Tom Nickel – is administrative staff on call at all times for emergencies? Dale responded yes and cited the recent shooting in Mayville as an example of how important it is to be able to respond quickly.

Anticipate a Resolution to eliminate 2 Transport Officers (Sworn Officers), 8 Correctional Officers and 1 Jail Program Specialist will come before the JPPC in November or December before it goes to the County Board. Jim Mielke clarified that this will not affect the budget. Question by Tom Nickel – if the paperwork is done in time can the Resolution just be signed by him? Yes per Jim Mielke.

Comment by Del Yaroch commending the Sheriff on the article in the newspaper today.

Future Agenda Items: Chair Nickel again stated that if a department has anything new to discuss they are to get it added to the Agenda.

Next Meeting: Friday, November 6, 2020 at 8:00 a.m. at the Dodge County Administration Building, Rooms H&I.

Adjournment: Motion by Ed Benter to adjourn meeting, second by Del Yaroch. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:28 a.m.

Disclaimer: The above minutes may be approved, amended or corrected at the next committee meeting.



Ed Benter, Secretary



Gina M. Steinke, Recording Secretary